

following hearing on October 9. In fact, on October 9, witnesses from two government agencies denied that any misconduct had occurred, confirming statements that they had made to staff months before. Nonetheless, Chairman BLILEY complained again about what he viewed as "implausible stories and explanations."

As Rep. JOHN DINGELL, ranking member of the Commerce Committee, and others stated in the press last week, these statements are nothing more than the last gasp of a Subcommittee staff that has labored unsuccessfully for almost two years. In two investigations, this subcommittee has engaged in a futile effort to link Peter Knight, the well-paid lawyer/lobbyist who successfully managed the 1996 Clinton-Gore re-election campaign, and Vice President AL GORE to some type of illegal activity. This was done to the detriment of much more important investigations that could have been done on health care, securities, telecommunications, and other issues under the Commerce Committee's jurisdiction.

During most of those two years, there was little or no effort to conduct a fair investigation. During 1997, the majority worked mightily to show that Molten Metal Technology, a small Massachusetts company which hired Mr. Knight as its Washington representative, received special treatment from the Department of Energy and Vice President GORE in obtaining research and development contracts for a nuclear waste clean-up technology it was developing. The president of that company, a life-long Democrat, had contributed to both the Democratic and Republican national parties, but the allegation was that he has received special treatment only because of his Democratic contributions.

The political purpose of that investigation was revealed before even a single hearing was held. Two days before the first hearing, a Subcommittee staff memo was leaked to the press in which the staff stated that it had no evidence of wrong-doing and no evidence of any linkage to Vice President GORE. This was already clear to the minority staff which had reviewed all of the documents and participated in many interviews. But the majority staff recommended—and the chairman concurred—that hearings be held anyway to "highlight . . . the cozy relationship among the key players, and the substantial flow of campaign contributions to Democrats." One of the benefits, according to the Republican memo, would be "enormous press coverage" and forcing key players to "deny allegations of misconduct under oath." McCarthyism at its worst.

Strangely, after the "enormous press coverage" resulting from Mr. Knight's appearance, at which he denied "allegations of misconduct under oath," the majority had to be pressured by the minority to allow the executives from Molten Metal Technology to testify—even though these were the very same persons who had supposedly paid for influence at DOE, according to the majority's allegations. The minority's request to have Molten Metal's Republican Washington representative testify about his role for the company was turned down.

Not surprisingly, the Subcommittee's investigation turned up no evidence of wrongdoing, but there were very heavy and tangible penalties placed on the parties targeted. Molten Metal was driven into bankruptcy. Two hundred people, including the president of the

company, lost their jobs. Personal reputations were damaged. Private individuals amassed huge legal fees; and the taxpayer will probably never benefit from the \$33 million invested in the technology. No report was ever written: no apologies were ever made by the Republican accusers or those who leaked negative stories to the press.

The second investigation, which Rep. BARTON says he will refer to the Justice Department—to find the evidence that the Subcommittee could not—grew out of the first one. During the Molten Metal investigation, majority staff heard that Mr. Knight had been paid \$1 million by another client and decided that such a fee was too large. Molten Metal was soon forgotten, as the Subcommittee plunged forward into another year-long investigation of another of Mr. Knight's clients. This investigation involved the \$1 million payment by Franklin Faney, a Tennessee developer, to Mr. Knight for three years' work of various real estate projects, mostly in the Washington area. Mr. Haney also had the misfortune to be an active Democrat, a former Democratic candidate for governor of Tennessee and a big contributor to the Democratic Party. The project on which the Subcommittee focused was Mr. Haney's ultimately successful attempt to become a participant in the Portals II building.

The chairman alleged at various times that Mr. Haney had paid illegal contingency fees and improperly and politically influenced decisions by government officials on a supplemental lease agreement signed on January 3, 1996. All testimony and documents to the contrary were ignored, particularly the evidence that Mr. Haney was not a member of the Portals partnership at the time in question, Chairman BARTON stated at various times that he did not have evidence of improper contingency fees or other improprieties, but the investigation and the hearings continued—hours and hours of hearings. The final one consumed almost nine hours during which *eleven* government witnesses denied any improper behavior or influence by Mr. Haney or his representatives. A number of them denied even knowing Mr. Knight or Mr. Haney. Chairman BARTON said that he hoped to "gain a much clearer picture of the contracts and negotiations" at that session, but what he heard apparently did not meet his pre-conceived view of the facts. So he came to the floor of the House to try again to do what his subcommittee could not do—ruin Peter Knight's reputation. Why? Because Peter Knight happens to be a Democrat.

This investigation has also established a number of new, expansive roles for Congressional committees that make us vulnerable to charges of abuse and meddling in business that is entirely and properly private, not public. The first new role is a judicial one. We set a new standard for evidence that sworn testimony by individuals is evidence only if it is backed up by documents. Otherwise, it is just talk.

Second, we became the D.C. Bar's ethics guru because some law firms have billing and partnership practices that we don't like. This was brought to our attention by disgruntled former partners who one would assume can litigate their own differences and file bar complaints.

The third new role was that of making sure that private businesses—particularly those

with chief executives of Democratic leaning—who agree to do business with the government take no steps to understand the business or the risks involved before they invest their funds. "Due diligence" by Democratic business people—especially if it involves hundreds of millions of dollars—is forbidden. Phone calls, meetings with anyone who might know about the project—all are suspect. If carried out, such activities are put under a Republican microscope for months on end.

Even when no wrongdoing is found, Republicans continue to sully the reputations of those innocent people. Is there no decency left in the GOP?

The people did not pay us to come to Washington to punish those of different political views, to eliminate our two-party system and political debate or to look into people's private businesses because we think they are paid too much or don't like the way they comb their hair. Millions of dollars in public and private funds have been expended on these investigations already because certain business people were seen by the Republican majority as Democratic "enemies" of this Congress. Hopefully, the Justice Department can separate a political referral designed to save face from a legitimate investigation and end this charade.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, II, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 12, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the good-hearted gentleman from Massachusetts. I have had the great privilege to serve in the United States Congress with JOE KENNEDY since we were both elected in 1986. Over the years, JOE KENNEDY has become more than just my colleague, he has become my friend and my brother. He will be missed in this great institution. He will also be remembered for his indefatigable capacity to help those and to stand up for those who have been left out and left behind.

It is no great secret that JOE KENNEDY is the oldest son of my friend and hero, Robert F. Kennedy. There goes a saying that the apple never falls very far from the tree. Since I first met JOE, I knew he possessed the same passion for justice and equality that characterized the extraordinary political career of his father. For some, to follow in the footsteps—let alone be the eldest son—of an American hero would be a curse. But for JOE, he honors his father and his mother, Ethel Kennedy, by being a passionate fighter for what is right. Our nation has been well served by his advocacy for better public and affordable housing for every American, by his tireless efforts for low income energy assistance, by his tenacious efforts to stop the practice of redlining by banks and other institutions and by his leading opposition to the School of the Americas, better known as the "school of assassins." I will miss JOE KENNEDY, but the poor, the elderly, the dispossessed and the lovers of democracy will miss him even more.

When you consider all the accomplishments of JOE KENNEDY, both as a private citizen and

as a member of the House, he has stood tall for the "dignity of mankind." He has never faltered in the long walk toward justice. He has never feared the good fight. He knows how to build a coalition and bring together disparate voices under one tent. We need more JOE KENNEDYS in the U.S. House of Representatives. We need men and women who are willing to stand up for the enduring principles of democracy. JOE KENNEDY is, above all else, an American patriot—he cares deeply for justice, equal opportunity and peace.

As we lose one of the finest members of this Congress, Massachusetts gains a concerned and tireless citizen. I know he will not give up in fighting for those who will need heated homes for the long New England winters. He will continue to speak up and speak out for what is right and for what is just and for what is fair.

It was JOE's father—Robert Kennedy—who used to say: "Some men see things as they are and say why, I dream of things that never were and say why not." JOE KENNEDY has lived up to his father's words. He has always said "why not?"

I am convinced that the spirit of history will continue to guide JOE KENNEDY. I pray that the spirit of history guides him to even greater challenges. Thank you, JOE, for your great service to our nation. You have made a profound difference in the lives of millions of Americans. I will miss you, your colleagues will miss you and the American people will miss you. Keep your eyes on the Prize!

RECEIPT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
EXCELLENCE AWARD BY COORS  
BREWING COMPANY

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay recognition to the outstanding work done by Coors Brewing Company in its Shenandoah facility in the area of protecting the environment. Under the leadership of plant manager, Bob Merchant, Coors was recently awarded the Environmental Excellence Award by the Virginia Water Environment Association (VWEA).

VWEA is one of 77 members of the Water Environment Federation. The Federation is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the global water environment and is committed to providing technical information to a worldwide audience, expanding quality services to members, and building alliances with other organizations.

VWEA selected Coors for its environmental commitment in the area of wastewater treatment for using the most advanced technology and for adhering to the highest of water quality standards—all in the effort to protect the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. The Association also recognized the company for developing and implementing specific actions for eliminating nonpoint source pollution, and educating the citizens of the Commonwealth about the protection, conservation and wise utilization of water.

This forward-thinking operation is a model for any company that seeks to go above and beyond simple compliance in its management of environmental issues.

After all, water is one of the most important ingredients in beer, and it is one with which consumers closely identify the company. Coors' commitment to water conservation and environmental control began when the brewery opened its doors 125 years ago, and their commitment clearly continues to this day.

The Coors Shenandoah facility at Elkton, Virginia, has been a great neighbor, a good employer, and a place we have over the years come to count on for true leadership on a range of important environmental issues. It is with pride and pleasure that I pay tribute to the outstanding performance of Coors Shenandoah.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. CLEO  
WILLIAMS

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding North Carolina educator, Mr. Lion Cleo Williams. Mr. Williams passed away on July 16, 1998 at the age of 81.

While pursuing his undergraduate teaching degree from North Carolina Appalachian State Teachers College, he interrupted his studies to serve in the United States Army during World War II. He later received his master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Cleo Williams began his 35-year career as an educator with the Lee County School System in 1947. He served 19 years as a teacher and athletics coach at Broadway School. He taught a variety of subjects, including social studies, physical education, book-keeping, and typing. He coached football, girls and boys basketball, baseball, girls softball, and volleyball. Mr. Williams was also the very first driver's education instructor in Lee County. In 1966, he became the principal of Broadway School and held that position until he retired in 1982.

Mr. Williams touched the lives of many people in the Broadway community throughout his career. He influenced numerous students and served as a mentor to other teachers and school administrators. He held other leadership positions in the community, including President of the Broadway Lions Club and a board member of the Broadway United Methodist Church.

I send my sincerest condolences to his family for the loss of such a great man and cornerstone of the Broadway community.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the efforts of community leaders, health care providers, non-profit organizations, contributors, and Congress in promoting breast cancer awareness and prevention. This month is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the perfect

time to begin life-saving practices such as mammograms and other methods of early prevention. It is also the perfect time to celebrate with breast cancer survivors, to stand with those who still fight, and to embrace those who have lost the women they love. These are the life-saving practices we should start now and never stop doing.

Mr. Speaker, the facts serve as a reminder that there is still so much to be done: One out of nine women in America will develop breast cancer in her lifetime; breast cancer takes the lives of more than 44,000 women a year; breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for women and the first for women between the ages of 40 and 55 years of age; although mammograms are a proven method of early detection, a large proportion of women are not using mammography on an annual basis. A recent study reports that 56 percent of postmenopausal women did not have a mammogram the past year.

Lest we despair, let us also remember great medical accomplishments and personal victories: more than 1.6 million women who have fought breast cancer are alive today; and early detection and prompt treatment are saving more lives each year. The 5-year survival rate after treatment is more than 90 percent!

This year I cosponsored House Resolution 565 which stresses the importance of mammograms and biopsies as methods of early cancer detection. This bill also recognizes efforts by community organizations, government agencies, and health care organizations in promoting breast cancer awareness and affordable access to cancer prevention care. I am proud to say this resolution passed unanimously on October 9 of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to end on a personal note. A dear friend of mine and close advisor has spent much of this month in the hospital fighting breast cancer. I think of her every day. When I pray for her strength and healing, I also thank God for the place she has had in my life and my success in Congress.

I am humbled that while she is weak, she thinks of me and that I am in her prayers. She continues to lend me her wisdom, her humor, and her strength. While she struggles, I can offer her only my friendship and my prayers. It is God who watches over both of us who will bring her through.

HONORING HOWARD F. SOMMER  
INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY  
LIVING Awardee

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 20, 1998*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Howard F. Sommer for service to the Brooklyn community, and congratulate him as a recipient of an Institute for Community Living award.

Since late 1995, Howard Sommer has managed the New York Community Investment Company L.L.C. (NYCIC) as its President and CEO. NYCIC, an equity investment and loan fund established by the ten member banks of the New York Clearinghouse Association, provides growth capital to small businesses throughout New York and offers similar risk